BOMBAY COURIER EXTRAORDINARY.

THURSDAY, 23 MAY 1839.

Much anxiety having prevailed here for the last two days on the subject of the news from China we have been induced to antic ipate our Saturdays issue by publishing the whole particulars of the late transactions at Canton, so far as appearing from the Papers and letters that have reached us, the latest of which is dated Macao 8 th ultimo. We abstain for the present from all comments upon the very extraordinary circumstances that have led to a state of affairs, unprecedented we believe in the annals of commerce, and involving consequences of so serious and momentous a nature, as regards the relations between China and this country, and the interests of the subjects of the latter, and the stake that England has in the question, and the course that she may be obliged to pursue, as well to vindicate her own honour as the rights of her subjects, that it is impossible to regard this affair, otherwise than with the utmost uneasiness and anxiety. With so extraordinary a People as the Chinese, so different in their thoughts and in all their ways from every other nation, one is quite at a loss to divine what course ought to be followed, short of absolute force and violence, the authorities apparently being impervious to reason or sense, and to this alternative of Force, we apprehend Captain Elliot thinks the question must come, for in no other way is it possible to explain the course he has taken. Himself under restraint and every British subject in the same situation, threatened to be starved to death if they refused, he calls upon his Countrymen to yield up the whole of their Opium to the Chinese authorities, upon a promise of indemnity to be made good by his government; and how is this indemnity to be made good (not certainly from the English Treasury nor yet the Company's) but by forcing the Chinese government, at the cannons mouth, to disgorge the value of the property so obtained, and to make amends for the insult offered to England in the person of her representative. In addition to the full details derived from the Canton Journals, letters to the 8th April from Macao have been shewn us, which make mention of the surrender of 20,283 chests of opium to the Chinese authorities, estimated at Two millions of pounds sterling, that Mr. Johnstone, who had been entrusted with the delivery of the Opium had arrived in the Inner Harbour the preceding night, but under restraint from the Chinese, and was not permitted to land; he was accompanied by a large fleet of war junks and two Hong Merchants; that they had gone off to deliver up the first portion of the Opium stipulated for at a place called Kee-ow Point opposite Lintin, but that it was not then clearly understood whether the commissioner meant to burn it, or to hold it subject to imperial orders. It is farther stated that letters received there from Canton of the 5th make mention of the Hong Merchants being in consultation with the Chamber of Commerce respecting a Bond to be exacted from every individual in Canton, commencing with Captain Elliot, pledging themselves not to deal in Opium, in violation of which they would subject themselves to the punishment of death. The Writer in conclusion mentions that he was just about to embark in order to arrange for the delivery of the Opium. The whole of this intelligence came by the *Good Success* which left Macoa roads 10th April and reached Madras on the 14th instant.

(*From the Canton Press, 23rd March.*)

EXTORTIONS OF THE MANDARINS.

From a Correspondent.

The well authenticated charges against the extortion of civilians seem to be considered by the generality of Chinese as a matter of course. None of the superior officers can be ignorant that their underlings indulge largely in peculations, and even the monarch at the capital must be aware of the actual state of things. The question however is not how to put a stop to the evil, but rather to prevent its becoming too inveterate and public. We do think that most of the higher authorities believe, that under existing circumstances unlawful exactions are unavoidable, and that to do away with them entirely would require a radical change in the national character and in the constitution of the country.

Most functionaries serve for some time before they enter upon office in the capacity of clerks or assistants, to learn the routine of business. As soon as they are called to fill a station they never come alone. Each of them has his domestics, who are either their personal friends, or remain in the magistracy as heirlooms. There are three distrinct orders known under the name of Scangkung, Laoutae and Munshang, who serve in various capacities without receiving a salary from Government or being considered as servants in its employ. Instead of demanding any money from their patrons, they have often to buy their offices and in the course of its functions, to make considerable presents to keep their places. These men then who are more or less literary characters are let loose upon the community, and serve in the capacity of middle men, informers, protectors, receivers, suborners, attorneys etc. Few Mandarins would dare to infringe openly the law, but they become their tools, and are often used, to speak the language of the vulgar, as cats paws; if they are successful, they share the gains with their masters, and if they get into a scrape, they ought to bear the whole brunt. We must therefore expect, that cunning is their characteristic, and that as men of business they are often superior to their employers. The executive part of Government being entrusted to their hands, they exercise a paramount influence upon the nation, and are much feared and courted. The runners, an inferior class, who are partly paid by Government, are under their direction and perform the more disagreeable part of their oppressive measures.

When it is moreover remembered that perhaps one third of the Mandarins have bought their offices, and that they must again indemnify themselves for the outlay; when it is further considered that in many instances their salary is inadequate for their maintenance, we ought by no means to wonder, that they do their best to make the most of their situation. Add, moreover, to this their apprehension of being denounced for some misdeed, and, the necessity of having a sum of money always ready for buying off penalty, the constant demand upon them for fees payable to their superiors, with several other items, and their condition will appear by no means enviable. They however cannot plead their perilous circumstances as an excuse for injustice, but it is extremely difficult to remain honest, generous, and loyal, where temptation, the force of example, and general practice all cooperate to warp their minds and render them callous against the claims of humanity and public justice. The system is vicious and the agents participate in all its defects, being moreover deeply tinged with a hankering after filthy lucre.

THE PASSAGE BOATS.

To Mr. Wetmore of the Honorable.
Chamber of Commerce.
A respectful communication.

A great Officer having just arrived in Canton for the express and sole purpose of putting an end to the opium traffic, which he is determined to pluck up by the root ere he desist from his labour, the laws on the subject are severe in the extreme and truly may not be slighted.

We request you will publish this letter in the newspapers, that all masters of vessels being fully informed on the subject may obey the law and bring no opium into the port We have also to request that you will give the *strictest* orders to the boat owners not to bring a single grain of opium up to Canton, *for our lives and property depend on their obedience.*

We earnestly request that you will not pass over the present letter as of no importance, and with compliments remain.

The Hong Merchants.

True Translation. S. FEARON.
Chinese Interpreter G. C. C.

March, 17th.

To. Mr. Wetmore and other Gentlemen of the Honourable the Chamber of Commerce.
A respectfel communication.

Hereafter the licensed passage boats must not carry so many kinds of provisions on board, either when they leave or enter the river;—they must use stone ballast and on no account iron shot &c., which are contraband articles.

Unless the strictest attention is paid to this, the revenue officers will seize and cause much inconvenience, and the peaceful egress and ingress of the boats be interrupted.—It is for this we write, and with compliments remain

The Hong Merchants.

True Translation. S FEARON.
Chinese Interpreter C. C. C.

March 17th.

General Chamber of Commerce.
Canton, 14th March, 1839.

To the Hong Merchants.

Gentlemen,—We beg to acknowledge the receipt of your despatches of yesterday and of this date, advising of the detention of the licensed boat No. 5. at the Bogue Forts, in consequence of this boat having on board several small articles for Macao.

We are obliged to you for these early communications, and are pleased to observe the officers of the customs at the Bogue station have detained the boat for further exammation.

We gave instantly on receipt of your first communication a letter, addressed to the person in charge of the boat, into the hands of Atom linguist, directing the boat to return to Canton that a thorough investigation may take place.

We have made enquiries of the person who despatched the boat from Canton, and learn from him that the owner of the boat is now at Macao, and has been there for some days.—Amongst the articles taken on board we have ascertained the following; 2 half Tea chests containing letters, 1,25 catty Box Tea. 4, 10 do. 3 5 do. 4 Tubs Sugar 1 Bag do. 1 Box Sugar Candy. 1 Box Clothes, 1 Leather Box containing letters & were intended to be landed at Macao, and that they were all embarked under the inspection of the officers of the Customs stationed at the point in front of the Factories, and who received the sum of $ being the amount of duties assessed by them on said articles; after which they gave permission to the boat to proceed to Macao, all which appears strictly conformable to the established regulations.

It seems in the present instance every requisite supposed duty was performed by the person who had charge of the boat, and we hope that after a careful examination of the matter, it will prove to have been conducted strictly in accordance with the established regulations, as understood by this Chamber and fully explained to you.

If the government intended strictly to prohibit the taking of small articles necessaries of life and other trifles from going on board of the licensed boats, it should have been clearly defined and so understood by the officers of the customs. Had this been the case the present occurrence would not have happened. We do not regret this occurrence, inasmuch as it will enable the government to sift the matter, and then they will be fully assured, that knowingly there is no intention to depart in the least from the fixed regulation framed for the management of the licensed boats.

W. S. WETMORE.
Deputy Chairman

To Mr. Wetmore and the other Gentlemen of the Honorable Chamber of Commerce.
&c. &c.
A respectful communication.

We beg to enclose copies of two responsive-edicts which we have just received from H. E the Hoppo and to which please give your attention.

We also request you will inform us, as soon as possible, to whom the goods (on board the Snipe) belong, were and by whom they were shipped and whither they were being conveyed when seized, that we may be enabled to report the same to the Hoppo, who command that the boat shall be brought up and wait till he is pleased to direct a Wei-yuen (deputed officer) to superintend her destruction by being broken up.

It is for this we write and with compliments remain,

The HONG MERCHANTS.

March 19th.

S. FEARON.
Chinese Interpreter G. C. C.

Reply of

Yú Collector of Customs at the Port of Canton, &c. &c. to the Hong merchants who state that the smuggled tea, sugar candy, &c., seized on board the Snipe had been transhipped at Whampoa and brought up to Canton.

Let the said goods be sold according to law, and their proceeds confiscated to Government. Let the boat which is called "the licensed boat No. 5" and which is now aground at Whampoa, be forthwith brought up to Canton by the Honamerchants who must report the same to me that I may request the Governor to depute an officer to accompany an officer from my department to superintend the breaking up of the boat.

Let this order be made known to the Chamber of Commerce for its information and obedience. Let the Hong merchants and Linguists strictly question the said foreigner *Peirce* as to whom the smuggled goods belong, where they were shipped and whither destined—do not allow the least prevarication, but forthwith report, that I may act accordingly. If you presume to gloss over the matter in the slighted degree, truly your punishment shall not be trifling, I will not indulge you!

19th year, 2nd moon, 4th day. March 18th 1832.

S. FEARON.
Chinese Interpreter G. C. C.

To Mr. Wetmore and the other gentlemen of the Honorable Chamber of Commerce.
&c. &c.
A respectful communication.

We beg to hand you a copy of an edict we have just received from H. E. the Collector of Customs requesting your attention and obedience thereto.

His Excellency has received a communication from the Governor deputing an Officer who, accompanied by one from the Custom House, is to superintend the breaking up of the Snipe belonging to Peirce.

It is for this we write and with compliments remain.

The Hong Merchants.

March 22nd 1839.

Yu, Collector, of Customs, &c. &c. at the Port of Canton, proclaims to the Hong merchants for their full information.

Respecting Peirce's boat which was seized at the Bogue for attempting to smuggle Tea &c. out of the river, I before commanded the Hong merchants to bring her up to Canton with all dispatch, that on their reporting her arrival I might depute an officer to accompany one from the Governor's Office to superintend the breaking up of the boat—I have now received a communication from H. E. the Governor informing me that he has commanded the Kwangehowhee and the Namhoy yune to accompany in person an officer from the Custom House to proceed on board of her and superintend her being broken up and to report same.

On receipt of this I, the Hoppo, besides commanding an Officer to hold himself in readiness to obey, also issue an edict to you Hong merchants, for your information and instant obedience Forthwith to bring up to Canton the licenced boat No. 5. belonging to Peirce that she may be broken up.

Haste! Haste! A Special Edict.

Taonkwang 2nd Month 7th day. March 21st, 1839.

True Translation S. FEARON.
Chinese Interpreter G. C. C.

General Chamber of Commerce.
Canton, March 21st, 1832.

To the Hong merchants.

Gentlemen,

We beg to acknowledge the receipt of the Proclamation issued to all Foreigners by the Imperial Commissioners. It has been received with profound respect by this Chamber and they have had a meeting this morning of its members, who have directed me, as theier chairman, to report to you as follows "viz.

"That the Communications made by the Commissioner of the "Imperial will are of such vital importance, and involve such "complicated interests that a reply to them cannot be given "without the greatest deliberation, and that a Committee "should now therefore be appointed to take the measures into "consideration, and report their opinion to the Chamber at the "earliest possible period*. That in the mean time a Deputa"tion from this Meeting do wait upon the Hong merchants to "state to them what has been done, who may at the same time "state, that there is an almost unanimous feeling in the com"munity of the absolute necessity of the foreign residents of "Canton having no connexion with the opium traffic."

It affords me great satisfaction to be able to inform you that agreeably to the Resolution of the Chamber, a Committee has been appointed, who will report in time, to enable a definite reply to be given on or before Wednesday next the 27th instant; and I need not assure you how very anxious the Chamber are that this important question should be disposed of and your minds as well as those of all right thinking people be set at ease.

I have the honor to be Gentlemen,
Your most obedient.
W S. WETMORE.
Chairman.

THE OPIUM-TRADE.

In our last week's paper we noticed the arrival in Canton of H. E. the Imperial commissioner *Lin*, and mentioned that this event, in the absence of any certain knowledge of his proceedings, had given rise to numerous rumours as to what his measures would be. It appears certain that he has, to obtain the favor of the people, relaxed the punishment of most of such as have hitherto been imprisoned both for dealing in and for smoking of Opium, the former of which are to be punished with less severity than the law warrants, and the latter having been liberated from prison without any punishment whatever. H. E. has likewise made known that he will himself defray all the expenses of his household, and not allow any of his followers to be a burthen to the people or the local magistrates. These measures, by conciliating the minds of the Chinese, cannot fail to strengthen him in the exercise of the unlimited powers delegated to him by the Imperial Government as "a high Imperial Commissioner, "who, having repeatedly performed meritorious offi"ces is sent to settle the affairs of the outer frontier" Such is his title, and he is furnished with an Imperial seal which is said so invest its keeper for the time being with all the despotic power of the Emperor himself, and which, on account of the enormous power it conveys. has been only twice or three times entrusted to high officers of state. The last time this very seal. now held by *Lin*, was entrusted to the keeping of a subject, was to quell the rebellion of the Tarter-prince Jehangir about seven or eight years ago.

Such is the nature of the powers entrusted to this officers for the special purpose of eradicating the trade in Opium and its use in the Empire, and it is probable that he stands deeply pledged to the Imperial Government for his success, and that failure in his mission would involve him in disgrace and punishment. It is therefore not to be doubted that he will exert himself to the utmost to attain his object, nor can for the present any expectation be entertained but that the Opium trade will he speedily suppressed altogether.

Since the Commissioner's arrival several seizures and of suspected persons have been made in China-street and Hog-lane, and a great many of such as fear to be implicated have fled; but what most interests the foreign community are the steps he has taken since his arrival towards the Hong merchants and foreigners themselves. The former have repeatedly been called before him, and been examined as to the nature of their intercourse with the latter; in H. E's. presence they were kept kneeling all the time the examination was being carried on. The Linguists also were called before H. E., and on Sunday last even the Compradores of many of the foreign houses, who were questioned on the nature of the business transacted by their masters, and it is said that they gave satisfactory information, and were graciously dismissed with a present of two Taels in silver each.

On Monday last at length appeared two documents, one addressed to the Hong-merchants and the other to foreigners, which we published in an Extra on Wednesday the 20th inst. In these documents H. E upbraids the Hong merchants for having suffered, in disobedience to Imperial mandates the importation of Opium into Whampoa, and for having connived at and facilitated the transaction of business in the drug—for having allowed foreigners too much familiarity in their intercourse—for being too subservient to them—for disregard of proprieties in the prosecution of wealth—for giving information to foreigners on what passes in the government offices—for allowing the exportation of silver—&c., and finally threatens them with death to one or two of them, if within three days foreigners do not give up all the Opium now outside. In his commands to foreigners H. E. first expatiates upon the great favors showered upon them by the Emperor to be permitted to trade, since without Rhubarb and Tea they are unable to live, and then states that, as the strictest watch is kept in all the provinces against the introduction of Opium, it will be only to the ruin of foreigners to keep it still on board of their vessels in the offings—that he therefore orders foreigners to deliver up to his government every chest of Opium, that it may be burnt, and that by such act of obedience they may deserve the Imperial reward. They are moreover to give a bond that vessels hereafter will not bring Opium, but that if they still should be discovered smuggling it, the foreigners will be content to suffer the loss of their goods and the extreme penalty of the law. H. E. further informs foreigners that the indignation of the whole population is roused against them, and that in proceeding to possess himself of their persons, should they continue refractory, it will not even be necessary to call out the military, but that the able-bodied of the nation (a kind of militia, or posse comitatus, or perhaps special constables) will be quite sufficient for that purpose.

H. E. moreover informs them that he is perfectly aware of the names of such among the foreigners who have dealt in Opium, and of others that have not, and if these letter will come forward and point ont their depraved countrymen they are promised a liberal reward. The same term of three days is also given to foreigners in which they are to present an address to H, E. in reply to his edict.

In consequence of the receipt of these edicts great excitement prevailed among the foreign community, and the Hong merchants encreased this by the danger threatening them seeming more immediate. They all assembled in Consoo on Tuesday night last and requested to be met there by a number of the most influential of the foreign merchants whom they entreated as they had any regard for their the Hong merchants lives, that they would lose no time in giving a reply to H. E. Any longer delay they said would cause two of them to be executed on the day following. Harrassed as these poor Hong merchants have been first with the different rumours that proceded the commissioner's arrival, next with his threats and their frequent attendance upon the commissioner, they appear to have considered their situation as really very dangerous and to have feared that the Yum-chuy would carry his threats against them into effect. It is impossible to say whether these were meant to be acted upon but on the following day (Thursday(a genera! meeting of the members of the Chamber of Commerce was held of which the result will be seen in the letter from the Chairman to the Hong merchants, in a preceding column, From this it will be seen that a committee was appointed to take into consideration the Yum-chuy's edict and report upon it at the earliest opportunity to the Cbamber, and a deputation to the Hong merchants to acquaint that body with the result. These after this communication had been made to them all went into the city to deliver it to the commissioner, and returned to the Factories at about 10 o'clock at night stating that the answer from the Chamber had appeared by no means satisfactory to the commissioner and that if some Opium were not immediately given up not only their own lives would be forfeited but those of foreigners generally would be in imminent danger. In the meanwhile all communication with the coastand even Whampea had been cut off; numerous Madarin boats being stationed in the river to prevent any foreigners leaving Canton, and the trade had also been stopped. No cargo was allowed to leave and Grandchops for such vessels as had completed their Cargoes were refused. All foreigners were therefore virtually prisoners here and completely in the powar of the Chinese Government, and their lives and property at their mercy. Under these circumstances, after the return of the Hong merchants at 10 o'clock at night, another meeting was held at the Chamber of Commerce the result of which was, after a good deal of discussion and after the Hong merchants had solemnly and individually declared that if about a thousand chests of Opium were not given up immediately they would most certainly be executed, to offer to deliver up 1037 chests of Opium to the Government to be destroyed—this of course under protest that the coercive measures of the Chinese Government and the consideration of the danger in which the Hong-merchants were forced them to this abandonment of property, With this resolution from the foreign merchants the Hong-merchants early in the morning yesterday returned into the City where they saw the Vice-roy only: and though as yet (Saturday morning) they have not made any official communication of what result that interview has been it is understood that it was by to means satisfactory, and that the quantity offered was by the Vice-roy declared to be insufficient. No direct answer has been received from the Commissioner but we hear that demands for the delivery of an additional quantity were made last night.

Matters remain in this uncertain state this morning nothing has been heard from the Commissioner since Thursday night, but it is evident that the Government is taking every precaution to support their pretensions by force if necessary. No intercourse, even with Whampoa, is permitted; boats are allowed to come up to Canton, bnt cannot return thither; the river in front of the factories is filled with mandarin boats and other craft containing troops; we hear of a number of soldiers having been called into the city and to be ready for service at a moment's warning and yesterday morning a detachment of soldiers landed in front of the Factories and marched into the City. If the Chinese Government by the course of intimidation they pursue partly by means of threatening the lives of the Hong merchants and partly by depriving the foreigners, resident here of their liberty, obtain possession of the Opium new in the Chinese seas, instead of allowing it to be sent away it will of course become a question for the Governments of the respective merchants here in what manner the Chinese are to make good the value of the Opium. Yesterday in the afternoon a message was sent purporting to be from the Imperial Commissioner inviting Mr. Dent to go to the City-gate to meet him there. Mr. Dent, we understand, expressed to the Hong merchants his willingness to meet H. E. at the City gate provided H. E. would furnish him with a safe conduct under his own seal and provided he were not detained above 24 hours. The Hong merchants, after many attempts to change this resolve, were at least obliged to report it to the authorities and afterwards again, late at night urged Mr. Dent to promise to go representing that his refusal would place their lives in imminent danger. This morning early the Qwang-chow-foo and saveral other officers assembled at the Consoo, atten-

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* The deputation consisted of Messrs. Wetmore, Green, Matheson, Daniell, D. Rustomjee, Fox, and Dent. The Committee is formed by Messrs. Wetmore, Fox, Matheson, Braine, W. Dent, Green, D. Rustomjee, Bell, and Delano.

ded by all the Hong merchants two of whom (Howque and Mowqua) had a chain hung round their necks, and three others were said to be imprisoned in the City and they again proceeded to Mr. Dent's house to urge him to meet the Commissioner, assuring him that if he did not comply with this summons two of them were to be executed immediately. The answer bing the same as before, the Hong merchants asked for a meeting to be called at the Chamber of Commerce and there at about one o'clock, met the foreign community, and Howqua again represented that yesterday's refusal of Mr. Dent to comply with the summons had already subjected them to the loss of their buttons, and to the degrading punishment of the chain; that the Commissioner was determined to see Mr. Dent. and that, if they (the Hong merchants) could not prevail on him to go, on this very day, two of them would most infallibly lose their lives. Mr. Leslie answered on behalf of Mr. Dent, that if a safe conduct under the seal of the Commissioner were given to Mr. Dent he would immediately go, but on no account willingly without it. Howqua then addressed the Chamber asking it as a body to express an opinion, as to whether they thought Mr. Dent's conduct just and reasonable, in refusing to go and see the Yumchuy, whence he was certain to return unharmed, thereby exposing the merchants to degradation and even to the loss of their lives. The Chamber answered that it was without their province as a body to judge Mr. Dent's conduct, but that if Howqua wished it, the opinion of every one present invidually would be taken. This the Hongmerchants refused, and then requested that Mr. Dent be asked to attend at the Chamber, but being told that under the circumstances in which that gentleman now found himself, he was resolved not to leave his house on any plea, Howqua proposed that those present at the meeting should proceed with them to Mr. Dent's house, to obtain a definitive answer to give to the officers then waiting for it at the Consoo-house. The meeting accordingly proceeded to Mr. Dent's, who again expressed his willingness to go, but only under the safe conduct from the Commisssioner, and the opinion of those present being taken, and they were the majority of foreign residents, was unanimous that without such guarantee it was unadvisable for Mr. Dent to go. This safe conduct the Kwang-chow-foo declared in the Consoo-house it was impossible to obtain, as they dared not even ask the Commissioner for it, but the Kwang-chow-foo gave the assurance that there was no intention whatever to keep Mr. Dent a prisoner or to maltreat him, and being pressed on this subject, he most solemnly avowed this to be his own conviction, but that he could of course not answer for what the Commissoner would do. Messages were frequently sent from the Consoo-house, but Mr. Dent adhering by his original purpose, the same answer continued to be returned, until at length as about 3 o'clock the Deputy Kwang-chow-foo, the Namboyune and another officer went to Mr. Dent's, and there stated that they had the most positive commands that Mr. Dent must on that day see the Yumchuy, and his not going would bring disgrace on them. Mr. Thom, who interpreted for Mr. Dent, then informed these officers, that it being the unanimous opinion of the foreign community that Mr. Dent should not go without the safe conduct, no other answer could be returned; the officers appeared very anxious to gain their end, and even entreated Mr. Dent's compliance, and seeing all their efforts fail they declared that they would not leave the house except with Mr. Dent, protesting all the while that no evil whatever should befal Mr. Dent, and the Deputy Kwang-chow-foo even assured that he would himself escort Mr. Dent back that same evening. The answer returned to that being still the same, they at last proposed that as their efforts were unavailing, Mr. Dent's partner, Mr. Inglis, should go to the Consoo-house to take this answer to the Kwang-chow-foo; this was accordingly done, and it being there represented to this Gentleman that it would be desirable that he should state Mr. Dent's resolve to some high officers then waiting in the City, he, accompanied by Messrs. Thom, Slade, and Fearon, went there, and they were received by the judge the treasurer, the salt Commissioner and grain inspector, the four highest officers of the province with the exception of the Governor and Deputy Governor. The questions asked had reference exclusively to Mr. Dent's refusal to go without the safe conduct, and they solemnly declared that no evil was intended to Mr. Dent, that the Commissioner only required some information from him. After a stay of about two hours, the Gentlemen were allowed to depart, escorted by a number of Police, and Mr. Thom was presented with two pieces of silk and two jars of wine as a mark of favour. At night the tops of the houses and the entrances of the foreign Hongs were guarded by a great uumber of Hong-coolies to prevent Mr. Dent' escape, the merchants being held responsible for his presence in Canton. In this position affairs remain this night (Saturday) for though the Hong merchants have again at midnight urged their request that Mr, Dent should go, nothing has happened materially to affect the question, The refusal of Mr. Dent to go without a safe-conduct from the Yum-chuy himself, and its approval by the foreign residents, are caused by the treatment Mr. Flint suffered, who being invited so visit the Viceroy in the year 1759, was sent to prison to Casa branca and kept there three years.

We give a correspondence of the Chamber of Commerce with the Hong merchants regarding the passage boat *Snipe*, which, it will be seen, is by the Hoppoo's order to be broken up for having had a few packages of sugar and tea on board. We mentioned this case last week and then regretted that the owners or managers of these boats, endangered the valuable privilege of the passage boats by putting merchandize on board. In this case however it appears that the penalty threatened is disproportioned to the fault committed, these few packages having been put on board here with the concurrence of the tide waiter whe received the fees usual for such kinds of shipments and who ought to be held responsible; no proof of having received the fee can however he brought against this man as he did not give a pass for the goods, and if accused to the authorities he will, of course deny the transaction altogether.

We have still time to mention that accounts have been received from Macao according to which Capt. Elliot has placed the outside shipping under protection of H. M. S. *Larne*. The shipping was to go to Hong-Kong, and to be ready to resist any act of aggression on the part of the Chinese. In the absence of Capt. Blake, the fleet is under the command of Capt. Parry of the Hercules.—*Sunday Morning.*

(From the Canton Press. March 30.)

THEORY AND PRACTICE.

From a Correspondent.

Keen lung's reign is an many respects remarkable for the uncommon severity displayed by the Government on several occasions. It must at the same time be confessed, that its unwonted rigor, often stifled the spirit of discontent, which was then more frequently breaking out, than even in our times. The province of Keang nan suffered in 1758 very much on account of the bad harvest, and the people began to repine under the Mantchoo rule. There lived at that time a scholar well versed in the classies, who clothed the complaints of the suffering peasants in the language of the sages, and composed a spirited treatise in which he bitterly upbraided the Mandarins for not taking measures to relieve the wants of the populace. This paper however he kept secret, being satisfied to think, that if he were permitted to stand up as the champion of the starving multitude, he would prove an able advocate. Unfortunately however this copy fell into the hands of a second person and he hastened to denounce the author to Government. Conscience struck, the Governor and Lieut.-Governor immediately seized the writer, and condemned him to death for having used seditions and slanderous language. As morever two other scholars had dared to transcribe this nefarious paper, they sentenced them to wear the cangue for several months, a punishment which was afterwards commuted into banishment and bastinado. The Emperor on receiving the memorial for approval, shewed his utmost indignation at being represented as if he did not care for the lives and happiness of his subjects, and he felt this the more keenly because during the 18 years of his reign he had expended more than 24,800,000 Shih of rice to succour the people in time of need. Willing however to exhibit mercy even towards a miscreant, he changed the capital punishment into transportation to the banks of the Amour.

The examinations had become a mere matter of routine, and the scholars, instead of being desirous of entering into the spirit of the sages, only endeavoured to write smooth sentences, full of cadence without meaning. Keen lung bei g himself an author and poet could not suffer this degenerate state of the literati, and therefore strictly enjoined the literary chancelors only to approve of essays written in a language at once racy and chaste, and to treat the candidates who composed mere words without thought, with the utmost contempt. In addition to this he instituted a court of inquiry of which the members were to make his ideas the standard of either approving or rejecting essays. The edict being duly received, all the literary magistrates responded to the imperial wishes, and the whole host of aspirants for honors and emoluments were renovated.

The heartless treatment of prisoners in China is too well known to need any further comment; but then it is a very extraordinary circumstance, that the laws of the Celestial Empire should ordain it otherwise, and yet the practice still continue. Keen lung having received repeated reports of criminals constantly dying before the sentence was pronounced upon them, finally issued on order, that they should not be made subject to harassing and bad usage, but mercifully handled until they could appear before the judge. To secure their lives, he made the keepers responsible for giving them in proper time food and raiment, and strongly prohibited the slightest approach to torturing. How far this law influences the conduct of gaolers of the present day, an inspection of the prisons will teach us.

We have considered it to be the best plan to give the occurrences of the week in the shape of a Journal, confining ourselves mostly to facts. It will be seen that our paper, instead of being issued on Saturday has been delayed two days, caused principally by the absence of our coolies.

Sunday 24th March.—This day passed off quietly, owing it is thought to the knowledge the Chinese have of the respect paid by Europeans to the Sunday. The following proclamations were received from Macao.

CIRCULAR TO H. B. M. SUBJECTS.

The Chief Superintendent of the trade of British subjects in China having received information that H. M. subjects are detained against their will in Canton, and having other urgent reasons for the withdrawal of all confidence in the just and moderate disposition of the provincial Government has now to request that all ships of H. M. subjects at the outer anchorages should proceed forthwith to Hong-Kong, and, hoisting their national colors, be prepared to resist every act of aggression upon the part of the Chinese Government. In the absence of Capt. Blake of H. M. Sloop *Larne*, Capt. Parry of the *Hercules* will make the necessary dispositions for putting the ships in a posture of defence, and in the absence of Capt. Parry that duty will devolve on Capt. Wallace of the *Mermaid*, and the Chief Superintendent in H. M. name requires all British subjects to whom these presents may come, to respect the authority of the persons charged with the duty of providing for the protection of British lives and property. Macao, 22d March, 1839.

CHARLES ELLIOT
Chief Superintendent of trade of British Subjects in China.

Her Majesty's Sloop Larne, at anchor in Macao Roads, March 22d, 1839.

With reference to my Circular of this day's date it is desirable that the ships of H. M. subjects at the outer anchorages should proceed forthwith to Hong-Kong, placing themselves in the absence of Capt. Blake of H. M. Sloop *Larne*, under the guidance of Capt. Parry of the *Hercules* and in the absence of Capt. Parry under the guidance of Capt. Wallace of the *Mermaid*.

Commanders of British Ships will make every preparation to resist aggression upon the part of the Chinise Government, but they will be very careful to refrain from provoking attack.

(Signed) CHARLES ELLIOT.
Chief Superintendent of the trade of British Subjects in China.

Until 6 o'clock in the evening nothing had transpired concerning the measures the Yum-chase was likely to take in consequence of Mr. Dent's refusal to go into the city; a little after six Capt. Elliott, arrived in a four oared boat belonging to the Larne at the Company's Garden. Capt. Elliot had proceeded in the Sousa cutter as far as Howqua's fort, though some ineffectual attempts had been made to stop his progress. From Howqua's fort he proceeded in the Larne's boat, and no opposition was made, although several Mandarin boats followed him, watching his motions. Capt. Elliot's arrived was immediately generally known; the English flag was hoisted, and Capt. Elliot accompanied by a great number of the Foreign residents proceeded without loss of time to Mr. Dent's to take that gentleman under his protection, and walked with him to the Hall of the Superintendent, where he still remains. On Capt. Elliots arrival in the Hall, where every one of the foreigners present in Canton had assembled, he read to the meeting the following proclamation:

PUBLIC NOTICE TO BRITISH SUBJECTS. L. S.

Macao, 23rd March, 1839.

The considerations that have moved the Undersigned, to give public notice to all Her Majesty's Subjects that he is without confidence in the justice and moderation of the provincial government, are:—

The dangerous, unprecedented, and unexplained circumstance of a public execution before the Factories at Canton, to the imminent hazard of life and property, and total disregard of the honor and dignity of his own and the other Western governments, whose flags were recently flying in that square; the unusual assemblage of troops, vessels of war, fire-ships, and other menacing preparations; the communication, by the command of the provincial government, that in the present posture of affairs the Foreigners were no longer to seek for passports to leave Canton (according to the genius of our own countries, and the principles of reason, if not an act of declared war, at least its immediate and inevitable preliminary), and lastly, the threatening language of the High Commissioner and provincial authorities, of the most general application, and dark and violent character.

Holding it, therefore, impossible to maintain continued peaceful intercourse with safety, honor, or advantage, till definite and satisfactory explanations have passed, all these particulars, both as respects the past and future, the undersigned has now to give further notice that he shall forthwith demand passports for all such of Her Majesty's subjects as may think fit to proceed outside, within the space of ten days from the date that his application reaches the government; such date hereafter to be made known.

And he has to counsel and enjoin all Her Majesty's subjects in urgent terms to make immediate preparations for moving their property on board the ships "Reliance." "Orwell," and "George the 4th." or other British vessels at Whampoa, to be conveyed to Macao, ; forwarding him, without delay, a sealed declaration and list of all actual claims against Chinese subjects, together with an estimate of all loss or damage to be suffered by reason of these proceedings of the Chinese government.

And he has further to give notice, that the Portuguese government of this settlement has already pledged itself to afford Her Majesty's Subjects resident here, every protection in its power so long as they shall be pursuing no course of traffic within the limits of the settlement at variance with the laws of this empire. And he has most especially to warm Her Majesty's Subjects that such strong measures as is necessary to adopt on the part of Her Majesty's government, without further notice than the present, cannot be prejudiced by their continued residence in Canton (beyond the period now fixed,) upon their own responsibilitty, or without further guarantees from the Undersigned.

And he has further to give notice that if the passports shall be refused for more than three days from the date that this application shall reach the provincial government, he will be driven to the conclusion that it is their purpose to detain all Her Majesty's Subjects as hostages; and to endeavour to intimidate them into unsuitable concession and terms, by the restraint of their persons, or by violence upon their lives, or by the death of native merchants in immediate connexion with them, both by ties of friendship and of interest; or by the like treatment of their native servants.

The Undersigned, in conclusion, most respectfully submit these observations to the attention of all the foreigners in China. And the respective Governments closely united by a community of feeling and interests, not only in their own quarters of the Globe, but most especially in this peculiar country, he feels that he is performing an act of duty in offering them every humble assistance in his power on this and all similar occasions, when they may be of opinion, that he can be useful to them

Given under my hand and seal of Office at Maccao, this twenty third day of March, one thousand eight hundred and thirty nine.

(Signed) CHARLES ELLIOT,
Chief Superintendent of the Trade of British Subject in China.

This was received by loud and hearty cheers, and every one seemed glad of Capt Elliot's arrival, and to think that affairs were likely now to take a better turn, particularly as that officer's presence served as a rallying point, which had hitherto been wanting.

Howqua took Capt. Elliots letter for the Viceroy, and up to a late hour this night no answer has been received. Immediately after Capt. Elliot's arrival notice was given to all native servants to quit, and they accordingly left the Hongs without loss of time. The mob which had collected in front, attracted by the news of Captain Elliot's presence was dispered by a strong police force which had been partly on the spot all day, but was now reinforced, and every thing was soon reduced to perfect order and quiet. The river near the factories was cleared of all the boats usually there, and in lieu of them three rows of beats filled with police aud soldiers stationed there completely hemmed us in, and rendering escape altogether impossible. The streets leading into the square from the townwere blocked up, and no natives allowed to remain or to go into any of the foreign factories. The strongest guard was of course before the Company's hall to prevent Mr. Dent's escape, and the men on duty there, coolies belonging to the Hong merchants, were armed with pikes and shields, which they held ready for use whenever the door of the English hong was opened to admit people or allow them to get out. Howqua and Mowqua, who had made their appearance in the Superintendents hall,, not ten minutes after Capt. Elliots arrival, returned to the hall several times during the night, but without any thing being known as to the nature of their negotiations. The inhabitants of the British hong organized themselves into a night watch consisting of one to keep the gate, and two others to patrole—being relieved every two hours.

Monday.—This day has passed over every quietly—the Chinese have completed their police regulations, and not a Chinese is to be seen in front of our houses down to the river, except such as are on duty. Howqua and other Hong merchants are repeatedly going to see the Superintendent, but nothing has transpired. In the afternoon a chop from the Kwang chow foo was said to have been received by Capt. Elliot. This night four instead of three gentlemen formed the watch one taking his post in the Superintendents verandah. The night passed over quietly, with the exception of one gentleman being mistaken by the police for Mr. Dent, and stopped—the mistake was immediately rectified. In the afternoon Messrs. Thom and Fearon were asked by the Hong merchants to go to the Consoo house, and when there, were asked to go into the City, the Yum chae being anxious to see them; Capt. Elliot however, we are told did not wish them to go.

Tuesday.—Every thing quiet in the morning, the guard near the houses has been reinforced and the coolies are busy building sheds to live under. The Hongmerchants came several times. and at about 1 o'clock brought two Chods said to be from the Vice-roy. Their nature not known but it is was said that things were going on favourably. In the evening some reports prevailed of a boat or two from Whampoa having attempted to force her way to Canton, which turned out a false alarm. This evening the pleasure boats were removed from in front of the British hong and carried to the middle of the square. The Hong merchants, in setting the watch of their coolies for the night gave strict directions that they should be watchful, and not sleep at their posts, as they had been seen to do by the mandarins on a previous night, for which they had been reproved. The night passed over very quietly, and it is said that *Lin* had incognita himself inspected the preparations. The following proclamation was this day issusd: a translation of which was kindly handed us by Mr. Fearon.

PROCLAMATION FROM THE KIN CHAE TO THE FOREIGNERS OF NATIONS.

Kin, a High Officer of the Celestial Empire, specially appointed by His Imperial Majesty to put down the Opium trade, hereby issues his commands to the Foreigners of all nations, under the form of four specific reasons, why they should make haste and deliver up their Opium.

First. Ye ought to make a speedy delivery thereof, because the dictates of Heavenly reason so require it.

I have examined and found, that during the last several tens of years, by means of your destructive Opium poison, ye have duped our people out of I know not how many myriads of myriads of money. While ye, scheming after private advantage, have directed your minds to the sole object of gain, our people have been loosing their properties, and compromising their lives? The reason of Heaven loves to make a just return! and think you that there vill be no retribution! Even now, if you make speedy delivery of your Opium, possibly by your repentance ye may yet avert God's wrath and curse, but if you will not, then your wickedness being so much greater, so much heavier calamities will overtake you in the end! Oh? ye foreigners! ye are distant from your native lands many tens of thousands of miles! while on ship board whether coming or going ye must cross a vast and trackless occean! On its bosom ye are exposed to Good's visitations in the shape of thunderbolts. and the raging storm, ye run the hazard of being swallowed up by the monsters of the deep! Every instant of your lives is passed on the brink of danger, and under such circumstances, dread ye not the judgment of High Heaven? Now the grand and majestic virtue of our Great Emperor, is quite the same as that of Imperial Heaven, and our sovereign Lord and Master anxiously wishing to cut of the Opium Trade for ever, affords a manifest proof that such is no less the Holy Will of Heaven itself? It is then a trafic that Heaven frowns upon with disgust and where is the wretch that may oppose it's stern decree? Were proof of this required, I might adduce the instance of the English Taepan Roberts who openly set himself against himself against our laws! this man endeavored to obtain possession of Macao by violence, and on that spot Death overtook him! Lord Napier in the 14th year of Taoukvang (1834) illegally forced his way tho' the Bogue, but he had no sooner done so than he was stricken with grief and dismay and soon afterwards expired. Morison who had darkly enticed him to his ruin, died that very year also! These facts are recorded in the newspapers of every country, and manifest dintinctly that the Will of Heaven may not be opposed! and oh ye forereigners; do ye still refuse to fear and tremble thereat.

Secondly. Ye ought to make speedy delivery of your Opium, in conformity with the laws of the land.

I have heard it said that Opium is not permitted to be smoked in your own coun- tries but on the other hand is forbid by the interest laws, the smoker of it being doomed to death! this shows clearly that you know Opium to be a life-destroying drug. Now if you forbid your own people to smoke it, and yet do not forbid them to send it to us that it may be smoked, this is not in conformity with the golden rule of "doing as ye would be done by:" Again, if your laws prohibit its being sold, and ye yet persist in clandestinely selling it, then are ye sporting and trifling with the laws of your own country in addition to all this, the laws of an Empire look upon the vender of Opium as guilty of a graver crime than he who merely smokes it, and we visit his offence accordingly with a much heavier punishment! Now as respects you foreigners, altho' ye drew your first breath in distant countries, nevertheless your Dynesty alone moreover ye dwell in its Central land many years of your lives and pass but few years of your lives at home; the food that ye consume every day, as well as the stores of health which ye amass, are neither more nor less than the goodness, of our Emperor, of which ye have a much larger share than falls to the lot of the natives of the country themselves, and how than shall it be supposed for a moment, that ye alone of all man, are not to stand in awe of the supreme majesty of our laws? Altho' Opium was prohibited in former times, yet the penalty attached to an infringment of the prohibitions, involved not any punishment of extraordinary severity, this was caused by the mild nature of the laws by which these realms are governed, and therefore you were allowed to continue your clandestine traffic, without any very minute investigation being made into your conduct. now however our Holy Emperor boils with indignation, and burns with desire to put an end to it, so it is that henceforward not only is the native who sells it but also he who does no more than smoke it, on the same principle doomed to die! Pause and reflect! were ye not to bring this Opium to our shores, oh! ye foreiguers! how should the natives of our land be able to traffic in it, or where should they get it to smoke! the blood of our own people which has been spilt by reason of the Opium traffic, lies consequently at your door! why then should we thus deal out *Death* to our own subjects. and you alone be exempt from the direful doom! I, the High Commissioner, looking up to my Imperial master, implanting in my breast his own strong desire to love and cherish the men from afar, nevertheless graciously spare you your lives, I ask for nothing more than that you give me up all the Opium in your possession, and that you write out a bond to the following effect, that you will henceforth and forever more deal in Opium, or if you dare to bring any more Opium hither, you are willing that the cargo be confiscated, and the people put to death. This is graciously pardoning what is past, and taking proper precautions against the future; why any longer cherish a foolish indiscriminate fondness! Still further, without enquiring into the quantity of Opium which you have sold during a succession of years, the amount of which is absolutely incalculable, let us only speak about that which you brought last year, and disposed of to us clandestinely. It was I ween no triffle, hardly equal to the quantity which you have now stored up in your receiving ships; this quantity then ye must deliver up to the last fraction so as ensure the mutual benefit to all parties; what prospect is there of our ever again permitting you by means of your noxious drug, to obtain dishonestly the wealth of our poor deluded people, and entice them to commit an act, by which their lives are forfeited to the laws of their country! I have with the most profund respect examined the Code of this great Tartaro-Chinese Dynesty (i. e. the Ta Tsing Leuh le.) and I find it writ therein, that if a Chinese or a foreigner violate the laws, he shall be judged and condemned by ths same statute. Now on previous occasion we have doomed foreigners to death, as in the case of a foreigner having killed a native, he must pay the penalty of his own life, as the forfeit of his crime, &c., &c., instances of which re all duly recorded. Now stop and reflect, if you slay a man, it is nothing more than the crime of a moment, and still the law requires you to pay with your own life, the life you have taken, and in the case of him who sells Opium, this is done with direct intend to dupe people out of their properties, and deprive them of their lives. Moreover, the properties that you thus fraudulently get possession of, and the lives that you thus take away, are not those of a single individual nor of a single family, and ought a crime of this magnitude to be punished with death or not? and yet will ye not speedily deliver us your Opium in order to save your lives! oh! ye foreigners! reflect on this deeply—give heed thereunto!

Thirdly. You ought to make a speedy delivery of your Opium because of the common feelings of mankind.

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Ye who come to Canton to trade, earn by this market a profit of three hundred per cent (or reap profit from three different sources). Every article of merchandize which you bring, no matter whether it be course or fine, whole or broken in pieces, there is nothing which does not find a vent here; and as respects the produce of this inner land, be it for eating, for clothing, for using in any way, or for mere sale, there is not an article which we do not permit you to transport and take away with you. Thus not only do you reap the profit of our central land by the goods which you bring, but you gather profit from all countries, by such of our produce as you take away. Suppose then that you did not carry on this trafic in Opium any longer, then the quantam of legal business that you did would be much increased, and so much more consequently would be the three hundred per cent profit that you should reap; thus might you get rich as before and your consciences being void of offence, and no evil deeds laying in store for you against a day of retribution, how happy! how joyful might ye feel! But if ye are determined to cary on this Trade in Opium. It must cause your general intercourse with us to be cut off! And I would like to ask you where in the wide universe will ye find such an excellent commercial mart as this is! Moreover without laying special stress upon our Tea and Rhubarb, articles without which your very lives would come to an end, and our different kinds of silk. wanting which ye could not carry on your manufacture, there are under the specification of food, white Sugar Candy, Cassia and Cassia buds; under the head of articles of use. Vermillion, Gamboge, Alum, Camphor, &c., &c., How can your countries possibly do without these items! And yet the products of our Central land are most profusely superabundant, nor have we the slightest occassion for any of your Imports from abroad! If by reason of Opium the port is closed against you, how can it be said that it was not you. who brought the catastrophe upon yourselves! And further, no man now dares to buy, your Opium, and yet ye keep it stored upon board receiving ships, where ye must pay so much rent per month, and where ye must hire workmen to watch and guard it, and why all this great and useless expense If they are overtaken by a storm, or it fire lay hold on them. they are capsized and submerged in the waves, or swallowed up amid the destroying blaze. These are all things which may very possible happen. and what plan so good as to beliver up the Opium and obtain an abundant reward in it's stead.

Fourtdly. You ought to deliver up your Opium without ..ss of time, seeing the force of circumstances requires it.

Ye from afar have crossed a vast ocean and come hither for the purposes of business and to carry on a lawful trade. For this end you must depend entirely on living with the people of the land on terms of friendship and harmony, fulfilling the duties of your respective stations; thus may ye be able to reap profit, and shun danger. By reason of your unlawful trafic in Opium, you have involved our simple people in guilt and misery; there is not a good or upright man whose heart does not grieve and whose head does not ache at it, especially in reference to those who have been induced to sell and smoke opium and have been put to death on that account. More particularly the common country people cherish a feeling anything but friendly,—the rage of the multitude is a thing difficult to be expressed, and this is a circumstance that you ought to look forward to with the deepest anxiety! It is said of you men from afar, that you adhere pertinaciously to the terms of truth and justice. Now our Mandarins are all proclaiming to you and adjuring you by the words of "truth and justice" and on the contrary we find you to possess not the slightest iota of either! Are your hearts tranquil at this! Do you yet give into the force of circumstance or not? Moreover it is in it's nature a commodity which ought never to be sold at all and now is a time in which it is not permitted to be sold, so what hardship is there or what regret do you feel in being compelled to part with it. Still further, it is an article which is not consumed in your own country, worse than useless will it be for you to take it back, and if you do not surrender it to the mandarins, what can you do with it by keeping it on hand? So soon as you shall have delivered it up, your commerce will become more rich, more flourishing than before, and with marks of politeness heaped upon you to the overflowing. Will not this be great happiness to you indeed?

I, the High Commissioner, as well as the Viceroy and Fooyuen, cannot hear the idea of doing anything harsh or cruel, so I care not about wearying myself with instructing and admonishing you at this great length? Happiness and misery, glory and disgrace are all in your own hands, say not that I did not give you early warning thereof!

A special proclamation! to be stuck up before the Foreign Factories.

Taoukwang, 19th year, 2nd moon, 12th day.
Canton 26th March 1839.

Wednesday the 27th March.—This morning early Capt. Elliot published the following circular.

PUBLIC NOTICE TO BRITISH SUBJECTS.

I. CHARLES ELLIOT, Chief Superintendent of the Trade of British Subjects in China, at present forcibly detained by the Provincial Government, together with all the merchants of my own and the other Foreign nations settled here, without supplies of food, deprived of our servants, and cut off from all intercourse with our respective countries (notwithstanding my own official demand to be set at liberty so that I might act without restraint), have now received the commands of the high Commissioner issued directly to me under the seals of the officers to deliver over into his hands all the opium held by the people of my country.

Now I, the said Chief Superintendent, thus constrained by paramount motives affecting the safety of the lives and liberty of all the Foreigners here present in Canton, and by other very weighty causes, do hereby in the name and on the behalf of Her Britanic Majesty's government enjoin and require all Her Majesty's subjects now present in Canton forthwith to make a surrender to me for the service of Her said Majesty's government, to be delivered over to the government of China, of all the Opium under their respective control: and to hold the British ships and vessels engaged in she trade of opium subject to my immediate direction: And to forward to me without delay a sealed list of all the British owned opium in their respective possession. And I, the said Chief Superintendent, do now, in the most full and unreserved manner, hold myself responsible for, and on the behalf of Her Britanic Majesty's government, to all and each of Her Majesty's subjects surrendering the said British owned opium into my hands, to be delivered over to the Chinese government. And I, the said Chief Superintendent, do further specially caution all her Majesty's subjects here present in Canton, owners of or charged with the management of opium, the property of British subjects, that failing the surrender of the said opium into my hands at or before six o'clock this day, I, the said Chief Superintendent, hereby declare Her Majesty's government wholly free of all manner of responsibility or liability in respect of the said British owned opium.

And it is specially to be understood that the proof of British property and value of all British opium surrendered to me agreeably to this notice shall be determined upon principles and in a manner hereafter to be defined by her Majesty Government.

Given under my hand and seal of office at Canton in China this twenty seventh day of March one thousand eight hundred and thirty nine at six of the clock in the morning.

(Signed) CHARLES ELLIOT.
Chief Superintendent of the trade of British Subjects in China.
L. S.

True Copy EDWARD ELMSLIE.
Secretary and Treasurer to the Superintendents

We believe that every British subject has complied with the requisition, and merchants of other nations have also made over to the British Superintendent whatever Opium they held on account of British subjects. The quantity of Opium thus offered to him amounts to 20,283 chests. Nothing worth noticing passed during the day—the servants are still away but any one that likes may go and buy provisions; the Chinese therefore have no wish now to starve us into compliance, though on monday last Chinese were not allowed to sell anything to foreigners. The guard of coolies mustered as strong this night as before, and having since yesterday built up their sheds they proceed with more regularity. In the square there are five partitions in the shed, each containing about 50 men from their respective hongs, the names of which are written on their lanthorns and caps. They relieve each other in parroling, two Hong-parties being continually moving. At night the square presents a very picturesque appearance, all the men carrying lanthorns and the different sheds being profusely illuminated as well as the watch boats on the river. Hitherto the people behave very civilly, and there seems to exist no ill feeling against foreigners. In fact the only signs of a disposition to riot were given at the moment of Capt. Elliot's landing; when the Chinese saw foreigners run to meet the Superintendent, they, not knowing the exact cause, thought something extraordinary must have happened, and the square was filled with a mob in a moment. Since that time however, the square being kept quite clear of people, we see nothing of them in front, but the communication with the backstreets not being stopped, foreigners go there and have an opportunity of witnessing that no ill feeling exists.

Thursday 28th March 8 A. M.—Nothing has yet tranpired as to H. E.'s intentions with regard to the Opium. This morning a Chop was received from the Kwang chou foo, which is as follows.

PROCLAMATION TO THE FOREIGNERS OF ALL NATIONS.

Chow, Kwang Chow Foo. &c., proclaims to the Hong merchants for their full information.

The following official communication has been received from *Lin* the imperial commissioner, &c., dated the 13th day of the 2nd month.

The foreigners of all nations have presented the petition.

"The foreign merchauts of all nations in Canton have received, with profound respect, the Edict of His Excellency, the imperial Commissioners, and now beg leave respectfully to address His Excellency, having already communicated, through the Hong merchants, their intention of doing so with the least possible delay.

"They beg to represent that being now made fully aware of the imperial commands for the entire abolition of the triffic in Opium, the undersigned Foreign merchants hereby pledge themselves not to deal in opuim, nor to attempt to introduce it into the Chinese empire.

"Having now recorded their solemn pledge, they have only further respectfully to state to his Excellency that as individual foreign merchants they do not possess the power of controlling such extensive and important matters as those treated of in His Excellency's edict; and they trust His Excellency will approve of leaving a final settlement to be arranged through the representatives of their respective nations. *Canton 25th March*, 1839."

This coming before me, the Commissioner, it appears, by the petition that in obedience to my commands, they dared no longer trafic in opium. Their reverencial obedience is thus manifested. They also earnestly entreat that as my will involved such important and heavy results. I will direct, the superintendents and consuls of their several nations to manage the business.

Now as respects the delivering up of the opium, the superintendent Elliot has this day handed up a duly prepared petition to deliver up the opium; and I, the Commissioner, in due course commanded that the most minute particulars be examined into and handed up in the form of a clear and distinct report: when he must wait till I fix a day for receiving the opium. This is on record. As respects Elliot, therefore: there is no occasion for my again issuing my instruction; but the consuls must forthwith clearly petition as to who they are, and their names nnd surnames, so as to enable me to act accordingly, and isue an Edict immediately for their instruction.

This Edict is now issued to the Kwang-Chow-Foo for his information and obedience. Let him forthwith send a reply with instructions to the hong-merchants to transmit copies of it to the foreigners of all nations for their information and obedience, and report the same, A special Edict.

On receipt of this I, uniting the circumstances, issue this Edict. On receipt of it let the said foreign merchants, in obedience thereto, forthwith state in a clear petition the names and surnames of the Consuls. Do not oppose. A special Edict.

March 27th, 1839.

The back doors were blocked up on Saturday last—and admission into the backstreets is permitted only through old China-street, all the other streets are blocked up and a watch set to guard them. Doctor Parker has hitherto been permitted to go to his Hospital, but this day he was refused admittance into Hog lane. The Chinese outside seem to be very anxious for the result, they having been dependent for their living on the foreign trade. In the evening of this day Capt. Elhot issued the following notice to His Britannic Majesty's subjects.

NOTICE.

I Charles Elliot Chief Superintendent of the Trade of British Subjects in China, do require any British Subject or Subjects, in the name of Her Britanic Majesty's Government, who may have Opium within his or their Factory to acknowledge the same to him in person within the space of two hours from this date.

CHARLES ELLIOT,
Chief Superintendent.

Canton 6 P. M. 28th March 1839.

It appears as if the Chinese relax in their very great vigilance, and coolies have been ordered by the Hong merchants to bring water; a great quantity of pigs. sheep and poultry were brought to the Consoo house this evening, and it is said they will be made a present of by the Yum chuy to the foreign resident, probably as a set off for the Opium given up. The patroles of coolies went their round as regularly as before.

A letter from the Yum chy was received this morning addressed to the French, American and Dutch consuls, of which the following is a translation, (we are as yet unable to give it)

From this it will be seen that he requires them to give between them, a quantity of Opium similar to that offered by the British Superintendent. Strict orders were given this evening to bring the pleasure boats on shore, they were accordingly amidst tremendous noise brought from the river and all deposited in the middle of the square, where they now are, many of them broken to pieces through the careless manner of landing them. One wherry was taken out of the old Company's long room and added to those in the square. How qua and Mowqua frequently called on Capt. Elliot during the day, and at times remained several hours with him.

Saturday, 30th March.---This morning we hear that no one is allowed to go down China street to market---this new vexatious prohibition is caused they say, by some foreigners going to the Consoo-house last night when the Kwang-chou-foo and other officers were assembled there, and the Kwang-chou-foo is reported to have said that, when they wanted any foreigners to come to them, they did not go, but came when not required; that therefore they should no longer be permitted to go in the backstreets. Another reason for this prohibition may be the desire to force us to accept of the Yumchy's present of poultry, pigs, &c. which we stated were brought to the Consoo-house on Thursday night; these were offered to foreigners in the morning of yesterday, but refused we believe, without exception. During the day some Parsce servants were allowed, with a passport to go to market. Another cause of this greater strictness may have been the Nam-hoy-yune's intended visit to the front of the factories which took place at about two o'clock in the afternoon. He came accompanied by several other mandarins and walked over the square up to the British Hong, looked down the passage which divides the Company's garden from the house and walked away again. The impression seems to be general this day that things are far from being settled, this is however merely guessed at, nothing having transpired as to the nature of Capt. Elliot's negotiations with the authorities. We omitted to mention that two buckets of spring water were carried to each house yesterday by order of the Hong-merchants.

Sunday 30th March,—Provissions, such as fowls eggs, mutton and vegetables were offered this morning by the linguists in all the houses, but by many refused unless payment were taken for them, while the Chinese insisted upon givin them as a present. A long document containing the Yum-chae's correspondence was posted this afternoon on the wall of the Company's garden, which for want of space and time we must defer giving until our next. Foreigners were informed this day that since they were averse to receiving provisions gratis the linguists would in future supply them with them for payment.

Monday 1st April—This morning another part of the correspondence between the Commissioner and Captain Elliot, and the American and Dutch Consuls was published in the square. Its purport is briefly to the following effect. The Commissioner says that Capt. Elliot proposes that Mr. Johnston should go down to Hong-Kong to be present at the delivery of the Opium—this, H. E. says, is not necessary—why not make each British Subject give an order for Opium, such as they were in the habit of giving to the Opium dealers; this Capt. Elliot should indorse, and then give to H. E., who would then send down for it, without Mr. Johnston's presence being necessary. If says H. E., Capt. Eliot has power sufficient to obtain the making over to him all the Opium belonging to British subjects, he surely may also have that of ordering such documents to be made out. To Mr. Snow, the American Consul. His Excellency says, that he cannot understand the reason why, as he, the Consul, has informed him, his contrymen should have delivered unto Capt. Elliot's keeping some 1500 Chests of Opium, rather than to him—he says there must be some double dealing there. (The Opium here spoking if is declared to be British property and as such was by the consignees given over to Capt. Elliot. The Dutch Consul, Mr van Basel, H. E. says in answar to a letter from him, that though he or his contrymen have no Opium, yet that he cannot for the sake of allowing one vessel to depart, permit the whole of his plans to be deranged. He recommends to the Dutch Consul to influence his neighbours to give over all traffic in Opium.

We ought to have mentioned before that in Consequence of a letter from Mr. King, the Commissioners sent him a gracious answer which, was ordered to be stuck up on Mr. King's door, in which it is said that though H. M. is aware of Mr. King's having abstained from the Opium trade, yet he cannot allow his servants yet to return, as such concession would interfere with his plans; he however recommends Mr. King to disseminate his maxims among his neighbours.

We have before going to Press. Monday noon, nothing new to communicate. Communication with outside natives is jealously watched against, and for some time nothing has been heard either from Macao or Whampoa. H. E. at some times says, that the trade will be reopened the moment the Opium has all been delivered over to him.

Canton Register, April 2.

THURSDAY, 21th MARCH, 1839.—We continue our daily journal of passing events, but it must necessarily be meagre, for a prudent policy teaches us at present not to say all that we know, though that all is but little, as the communications between H. M's. Superintendent and the imperial envoy are, of course, guarded as secret; and most of the information that comes to our knowledge is merely founded on the floating rumours of the day.

The following in a translation of a document issued by the commissioner, and which is pasted up on the entrance door of the American hong, in which Mr. King resides.

Mr. King's address to H. E. the Imperial Commissioner, Lin.

Your Excellency's Edict of the 18th instant having been communicated to the undersigned, he hereby respectfully replies—that during the many years has been engaged in trade with Canton, he has never bought, sold, received, or delivered, one catty of opium or one tael of sycee silver; he has at the same time used his best efforts to dissuade all men from the injurious traffic. He is now ready and hereby does engage to pursue in future the same course as heretofore under the penalties desired by the Chinese government.

Having done that, the undersigned begs that the business of his ships and all his other business may be permitted to proceed, and his servants returned to his Factory; he has only to add that he has delayed beyond the period fixed, in the hope that all the merchants would come forward at one and the same time with their reply.

Canton, 25th March, 1239.
H. E's REPLY.

Reply of Lin, great minister and imperial commissioner of the celestial dynasty, to the address of the American merchant, King.

On my arrival in Canton, I heard that the said foreigner, King, never trafficed in opium; of all he is the most praiseworthy; but when I, the great minister, early promulgated my decree, requiring all the Foreigners to deliver up their opium to government, why was not the said foreigner able publickly to induce them to do so? Yesterday, because many days had clapsed without receiving any report of its being delivered up, the holds of the ships were in due course closed; moreover, the bad Foreigners having a desire to escape, and their Factories being open and accessible on everyside and from every quarter, it is difficult to prevent their so doing—Hence it was that all the compradors and servants have been temporarily removed, in order to prevent their shewing them a way of escape. Now, according to what is stated in the address, "it was hoped that all *the merchants would at once comply &c.," if they really act thus, and immediately deliver up all their opium, then what* difficulty can there be in having all business go on *in its usual* course? But at the present time all the Foreigners have not delivered up all their opium: and while on the one hand I cannot allow the bad foreigners to involve the good, so neither can I on the other for the sake of a single case change my great plans. Therefore in regard to the opening of the trade &c.. for the time being it is difficult to grant the request.

I give instructions to the prefect of Kwanv chow, that he may direct the hong merchants clearly to explan this edict, that he (King) may early induce all the foreign merchants to comply and give up their opium without delay, that they may in no way be involved thereby.

March, 26th, 1839.
Let this be pasted upon the Foreigner's Factory.

It is reported this evening that the merchants have proposed a plan for the surrender of the opium, but the com nisioner has not approved of it. It is said H. E. expressed his surprise at the immense booty he has obtained, and feels rather embarrassed as being in the present ownership of such extensive national spoils; and that he has observed it will be necessary to wait for instructions from Peking; yet also *on dit* that H. E. requires an equal quantity to be delivered up by the consuls as the other nations

FRIDAY, 23RH.—This day, being GOOD FRIDAY, divine service was performed, at the request of Captain Elliot, in the chapel by the reverned E. C. Bridgman.—The day passed quietly; and the Linguists brought coolies into the hongs to supply water. There was a rumour that some of the Lascars on board the passage boats in the river —communication with which has entirely been cut off since Monday—are sick and famishing—even dying and dead!

This evening, about 12 o'clock, all the sailing and rowing boats that were left afloat or hoisted up under cover on Wednesday night, were hauled up, by the hongmerchants orders, into the centre of the square

SATURDAY, 3 TH. We heard this morning that H. E. has made the most unreasonable demand that ten thousand chests of opium shall be delivered up in ten days. The reply is said to have been that the whole quantity surrendered to the British Superintendent "for the service of H. M's government to be delivered over to the government of China" shall be delivered up to H. E; but that some of the opium ships outside, alarmed at the rigorous measures of H. E., have sailed for Singapore and elsewhere; and they must necessarily be ordered to return to China before the H, E's. requisition can be obeyed.

Ingress into Old China Street was re used this day; and the reason given by the officer on guard for this refusal was that the Kwang chow foo and other magistrates were in consultation at the consoo house; but the individual seeking admittanee was informed that in about two hours, when the magistrates would leave, he would be allowed to pass; he did not, however, subject himself to another refusal.

At 2 o'clock the Namhoy magistrate, accompanied by the Weiynen, who went to Mr. Dent's house on the 23rd ulto., made a tour of inspection of the whole space in front of the Foreign factories; entering from Old China Street they walked as far as the Danish hong, and directed the fruit stall in front of Chungching's sweatment shop to be removed; they then proceeded down the centre of the square, and returned along the payment to their chairs

To day a supply of live stock, consisting of sheep, pigs, fowls &c. was sent to the British superintendent by the imperial commissioner, but was declined by the former; supplies of household necessaries were also sent into the different hongs inhabited by foreigners, by and at the expense of the hong merchants; these supplies were accepted by some and refnsed by others.

SUNDAY, 31ST.—Divine service was performed in the chapel; the service was read and an appropriate sermon preached, from the text.—"What is your life?" by the reverened P. Parker. The day passed quietly; between 4 and 5 o'clock a linguist informed us that provisions would be supplied by the linguists in future, for which payment would be required; the linguists, in fact, are to act as compradors, or house stewards.

MONDAY, 1ST APRIL.—The jokes of April fool's day were not forgotten by the foreigners. Nothing has passed worth recording.

TUESDAY, 2ND APRIL.—To day the Washing men have appeared in the hongs, with a porter's wooden ticket from the linguists.

WEDNESDAY, 3D APRIL.—Circumstances having obliged us to delay the publication of the Register until to day, we are enabled to publish the *Public Notice to British Subjects*, issued this day by the chief superintendent, and the official translation of the commissioner's command to the general chamber of commerce.

PROCLAMATION.

To WETMORE, CHAIRNAN OF THE GENERAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

Choo Kwangchow Foo &c. Proclaims to Wetmore, Chairman of the general chamber of commerce, for his full information.

The following has just been received from H. E. LIN, imperial commissioner, &c.

On the 18th day of the 2nd month, of the 10th year of Tankwang, Wetmore, Chairman &c. petitioned follows.

[Copy of Petition.]

"This coming before me the commissioner, &c., I, as is proper, reply ---I find on examination, that the American nation ought to deliver up some opium, yet, up to this time, they have not handed up any account of the quantity they are to deliver up. I have already strongly commanded their consul, Snow, in my reply to his petition on the subject, to be *urgent*: this is on record. Now I have looked into the petition of the said chairman, and find it a mere tissue of senseless prattle. It is of the greatest importance that the opium be delivered up and received at the present time; how, then, can I allow myself to be trifled with in this way? Let the said consul, Snow, forthwith hand up in a responsive petition, a clear and detailed account of the quantity &c., to be delivered up, so that it may be examined and received at the same time with the smoking "filth" which the English have given up; do not let him attempt the least concealment, lest he involve himself in unpleasant consequences.

Uniting the circumstances I send the edict to the Ewaugchowfoo. who must instantly hand it over to the hong merchants with instructions to deliver it to the chairman Wetmore for his information and obedience, do not oppose, &c. &c." Upon receipt of the above, and uniting the circumstances, I at once issue an edict, upon receipt of which the said chairman, Wetmore must accord his instant obedience thereto, and forthwith make out a true and detailed account of the quantity &c. of opium—(American property) which the said consul. Snow, must hand up in a responsive edict, and forthwith deliver up the opium.

Should there be any further delay or glossiug over, you may become involved in the consequences of the high commissioner's displeasure.

Do not then. O chairman! any longer oppose and evade this heavy matter.

Tremble, Haste, haste, a special edict April, 1st, 1839.

This morning the entrances to New China Street and Hog-lane, were walled up: this we consider a cautious prevention against popular tumults. Rice is fortunately for all parties, cheap---say $ 2 per pecul.

At 4 o'clock this afternoon, Mr. Johnston, the second superintendent. accompanied by Mr. Thom. as Chinese interpreter, proceeded in a chopboat, under the escort of Chinese officers, to Macao, to superintend the delivery of the fist parcel of opium.

General replies of the High Commissioner published by him in the form of proclamation, before the factories.

Reply of the 27th March, to the address of the English Superintendent Elliot surrendering Opium.

"The representation that in obedience to the commands he will deliver up the opium manifests a respectful sense of duty and understanding of matters. I find that the store-ships at present in these seas are in all twenty-two; and the general amount of the opium they have on board, I am already informed of by my inquiries. The Superintendent can have no difficulty in instantly ascertaining from all the foreigners in the factories the precise amounts, and immediately writing out and presenting a clear statement thereof, to enable me, the commissioner in conjunction with the governor ond lieut. governor, at once to declare a certain period, which we will ourselves go to receive what is delivered up. He must not make an untrue report, lest he bring on himself the offence of concealing, deceiving and glossing over. Beware of this!

Reply of the 28th March, to the address of the English Superintendent Elliot stating the amount of Opium surrendered, 20,283 Chests.

"By this address it appears, that the amount of opium has been ascertained, and the needful examination and receipt thereof are respectfully awaited. The real sincerity and faithfulness thus shown are worthy of praise. I find that the amount of 20,283 chests, stated by the said superintendent, has reference only to such as is brought by the English foreigners. I, the commissioner, have assuredly no suspicion that there is any insincerity behind. And the statement that there is some at other ports elsewhere, I presume also to be the fact. But I have considered, that, before the issuing of the orders to deliver up, it is difficult to feel assured that there has been no opium laid up in the several foreign factories, nor any brought in the various

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vessels at Whampoa. The question does not now stop with what is in deposit on board the store ships: but at this time, when punishment is not to be inflicted on past offences, it is essential that all the opium, whatever laid up, should be completely surrendered. Assuredly the offences of those who have before laid up a store thereof shall not be visited upon them.

"I have now, in conjunction with the governor and lieut. governor, determined on the rules to be observed in regard to the delivery of the opium. Besides sending a copy thereof separately to the prefect of Kwangchow Foo, that he may desire the hong merchants to make known the same, I also require of the said superintendent instantly to ascertain what quantity of opium there may be in the foreign factories, and on the 29th officers shall be deputed to receive same:—what quantity of opium there may be on board the ships at Whampoa, to examine and receive which officers shall be sent on the 30th:—and what quantity there is on board the twenty-two store-ships outside, to examine and receive which I, the commissioner, and the governor will ourselves go to the Bocca Tigris. Whatever there may be stored up at other ports, since the said superintendent has promised to deliver up the whole, he should of course be held responsible for the delivery of, from time to time as it shall arrive. Should ths amount be in excess of the 20,283 chests it must still be fully surrendered. In so doing the sincerity of the purpose will be shown. And assuredly no blame shall be attached to the inaccuracy of the original report, on account of such excess

"Besides this, the American, French, and Dutch nations also Consuls in superintendence of affairs, to whom orders have now being given in like manner to pay obedience and, speedily to represent the real amounts, waiting till examination can be made and the whole received. Though the said superintendent be peculiarly charged with the controul of the English foreigners; yet having been permitted by the crown, in consequence of the governor's representation, to remain as superintendent in the foreign factories, he should spread abroad his monitions, so so that all may speedily deliver up what opium they have, so as to enable us to memorialize the throne conjointly, and request a conferment of favors from the great Emperor, in order to afford encouragement and stimulate exertion, Now is the time for the foreigners of all nations to repent of their faults, and pass over to the side of virtue. This is the day and time for reformation; and if embraced, the enjoyment of un-ending advantages will be the result. Let none on any account make excuses, or seek delay, so as to incur cause for future repentance."

Reply of the 29th March, to the English Superintendent Elliott's address requesting that as usual the compradors and servants should be allowed, and that the passage boats should be permitted to run between this, the outer anchorages, and Macao.

"Yesterday the said superintendent, when addressing me in reply, promised for himself that he would certainly deliver up the opium of his nation to the amount 20,283 chests, surrendering the whole quantity as he should bring it into his hands: I therefore answered, in his praise, and at the same time clearly gave directions in regard to the places where and times when the delivery should be made. And I besides sent, in a separate form, a list of rules, and required of him to write foreign letters (or orders), to enable me to depute officers to proceed therewith to the storeships, and call on them to make the delivery. This was a most simple, convenient, and easy mode of proceeding. If the said superintendent were really acting with sincerity of purpose, he certainly should have speedily proceeded to obey my commands. Though he say, that in the foreign factories, and on board the ships at Whampoa, there is now no opium, yet the opium laid on board the 22 store-ships, is all deposited therein by the foreigners residing in the factories. Ordinarily, when combining with Chinese traitors to dispose thereof clandestinely, it has been always practicable to obtain foreign orders written at the factories, and giving the same to the fast boats to proceed therewith outside and get possession of the commodity. How is it then that on this occasion, when surrendering the opium, there is no knowledge of this mode of operation?

"In the present address, it is represented that now, while the north wind is blowing, it is feared that vessels outside having opium on board may perhaps set sail and go away. Now I find that of late the store-ships have all returned to Lintin, Macao roads, and the other anchorages, and there remained; doubtless because they have heard that commands have been issued requiring delivery of the opium, and therefore have not dared to sail far away, *They* are yet disposed to await and pay obedience; while *you* would desire to stir them up and make them go. I would ask, seeing that you have taken on you the responsibility in this matter, how, if the store-ships should dare to sail away, you will be able to sustain the heavy criminality attaching to you?

"The address talks too of close restraint, as it were imprisonment; which is still more laughable. I find that from the 18th of March, when the commands were given to all the foreigners to deliver up their opium, every thing remained as usual, until the 24th, when you came in a boat to Canton, and that night wished to take Dent and abscond with him. It was after this that cruisers were stationed to examine and observe all that went in and out. It was because you were void of truth and good faith, that it became unavoidably necessary to take preventive steps. As to the compradors, and others, they are in fact Chinese traitors, who would also suggest absconding and escape. How then could the withdrawal of them be omitted? Yesterday too, when you had made a statement of the amount of opium, I at once conferred on you a reward, consisting of sundry articles of food. Is this the manner in which prisoners are ever treated?

"I the High commissioner, in conjunction with the governor and lieut. governor, looking up to the great emperor, embody his all-comprehending kindness, and in our treatment of you foreigners of every nation never go beyond these two words, favor and justice Such as display contumacy and contempt, how can they have ought but justice dealt out to them! But such as show a respectful sense of duty, shall assuredly be tenderly intreated with favor.

"Do you now simply command plainly all the foreigners, with instant speed to prepare letters, and hand them in to government, to enable it to give commands to all the store-ships to deliver up in orderly succession the opium, and as soon as this shall be delivered up, every thing shall without fail be restored to its ordinary condition. This requisition is indeed conformable to reason: what difficulty is there in complying with it? If in place of speedily making delivery you make protexts for divesting attention in the hope that after the strict preventive measures shall be withdrawn you may form some other scheme; who cannot see through such artful device? And will you be enabled to make a repetition of such attempts?

"Besides deputing officers to proceed to the hong merchant's consoo house, there to give verbal commands and so prevent delay you are also hereby required to act speedily in obedience to this my reply. Do not again be working at excuses and delay, thereby drawing on yourself cause for future repentance."

Reply of the 30th of March to the English Superintendent Elliott's address, proposing to send Johnston outside.

"This address represents, that the Deputy Superintendent, Johnston, shall be sent outside, to call together all the vessels, and deliver up the whole amount of opium; and gives conveyance to an order to him for my perusal I the high commissioner, have carefully examined the terms of this order; and though I find therein nothing improper; yet considering that in a previous address the said Superintendent stated, that taking on him the power entrusted to him bp his sovereign he had required of the people of his nation immediately to deliver up the whole of the opium.—it is plain to me that as the said Superintendent has the power of making such a requisition, he can have no difficulty in giving orders directly to all the store-ships; and what necessity then is there for committing the matter to Johnston, and thus multiplying the twists and bends of the transaction.

"I, the high commissioner, have given reiterated official replies, requiring of all the foreigners to write orders themselves, on the ground that, in the ordinary manner of selling the opium, they have always thus disembarked the goods, without committing an error once in a hundred time Why then is not the opium surrendered in this comparatively simple, convenient, and easy way?

"Let me now weigh the matter for you. The said Superintendent having powers to act and having repeatedly acknowledged before me his responsibility, can have not the smallest loop-hole of escape therefrom. How can be posslbly have the power to require that they write orders for the same? It is his duty then immediately to pay obedience to my reiterated commands, and speedily to require of all the foreigners severally to write foreign orders for the number of chests of opium they have on board each vessel by name, and to present the same to government through the said Superintendent, covered by a general order from himself, that these being conveyed to the storeships they may in orderly succession make delivery. The earlier the day of the complete delivery, the earlier will be the day for the commercial intercourse to resume its ordinary course, not stopping merely at the giving permission to the passage boats to run.

"The said Superintendent must know that I, the commissioner, give my commands and cautions in full sincerity, and must speedily pay implicit obedience. He must not be turning inconstantly this way and that, bringing thereby criminality and cause of sorrow on himself,

The foreign order is sent back herewith.

REPLY OF THE 27TH MARCH.

To WETMORE, CHAIRMAN OF THE GENERAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

Choo, Kwang chow foo &c. proclaims to Wetmore, Chairman of the General Chamber of Commerce, for his full information.

The following communication has just been respectfully received from *Lin*, imperial commissioner &c.

"On the 15th day of the 2nd month.

WETMORE, CHAIRMAN &c. PETITIONS AS FOLLOWS:—
General Chamber of Commerce.
Canton, March 28th, 1839.

A RESPECTFUL ADDRESS.

The Chairman of the General Chamber of Commerce has received with profound respect, the Proclamation of H. E. the Commissioner, addressed to all Foreigners in Canton, and in compliance with the requisition of said document reports, that Peter Wanten Snow is Consul for the United States of America. Magdalimus Jacobus Senn Van Basel, Consul of the King of Holland, and J. P. Van Loffelt, at present at Macao, is reported to be acting Consul for the King of the French.

W. S. WETMORE.—Chairman,

It appears that the object of this petition being brought before me is to hand up a list of the names and surnames of the several nation's Consuls: to which, as is proper a reply,

I, the commissioner, having previously informed myself, by examination, (of their names), as was proper, yesterday issued another edict commanding the said several contries to send in a true and just account detailing the quantity of opium in their possession, and to wait till I was ready to receive it· Why have they not yet petitioned to this effect?

Let the said foreigners be forthwith urgently admonished by the said Chairmnn of the Chamber of Commerce to make out the required document, and at an early day to deliver up their opium. Do not attempt to escape this duty, lest you yourself become involved in error. In consideration of the circumstances I issue this edict for your information and obedienee.

This proclamation is to be sent to the Kwaug chow foo, who will deliver it to the hong merchants with orders to transmit it to the said Wetmore, for his instant obedience. Do not oppose!"

Upon receipt of the above I, as is proper, forthwith issue this edict to the said Wetmore, who upon receipt of it must accord his instant obedience. Do not oppose. A special edict. March 30th, 1839.

NOTICE TO FOREIGNERS.

Howqua, Mowqua, and the other hongmerchants, hereby earnestly beg and entreat foreignors of all nations, that no one will induce their compradors, servants, cooks, coolies, or any native whatever, in the present posture of affairs, to enter or remain in his hong.—There is a possibility of the foreign factories being searched by the mandarins, and any native found therein *would infallibly be put to death, whatever plea might be urged in his favour*. And the hongmerchants hereby give notice, that if, after this warning, any foreigner should induce a native or natives to enter or remain in his hong, and should such native or natives suffer death in consequence, they will consider the blood of such murdered native to be on the head of the said foreigner or foreigners.

The above, in the English language was suspended on Monday at the gate leading into the garden of the British Consulate.

This notice is at variance with the commissioner's proclamation; and as being merely the declaration of the hongmerchants, we do not consider it worthy of credit: for if a native were put to death for entering or remaining in the factory of his foreign employer, he would suffer for a contravention of a Chinese law, and, therefore, would not be *murdered*, but put to death legally; or if executed illegally his blood would be upon the head of his betrayers and unjust judges. We are not aware, however, that any such law *pro hac vice*, has been promulgated by the imperial commissioner.

Public Notice to British Subjects.

The undersigned has now to announce that arrangements have been made for the delivery of the opium lately surrendered to him for Her Majesty's Service, by which His Excelleney, the High Commissioner, has stipulated that the servants shall be restored after one fourth of the whole be delivered, the passage boats be permitted to run after one half be delivered, the trade opened after three fourths be delivered, and every thing to proceed as usual after the whole he delivered (the signification of which last expression the undersigned does not understand).

Breach of faith (and His Excellency, not unnaturally, is pleased to suppose, that breach of faith may be possible) is to be visited after three days of loose performance of engagements with the cutting off of supplies of fresh water, after three days more, with the stoppage of food, and after three days more, with the last degree of severity on the undersigned himself.

He passes by these grave forms of speech without comment.

But with the papers actually before him, and all the circumstances in hand, he is satisfied that the effectual liberation of the Queen's Subjebts, and all the other Foreigners in Canton, depends upon the promptitude with which this arrangement is completed,

The maintenance of the national character, and the validity of the claim for indemnity depend upon that scrupulousness of fidelity with which he is well assured his countrymen will enable him to fulfil his public obligations to this government.

As soon as the whole opium surrendered to him be delivered over to the Chinese officers, it will be the duty of the undersigned to communicate with his couutrymen again.

But it is a present relief to him to express to the whole foreign community his admiration for the patience and kindly feeling which has uniformly distiuguished this community throughout these trying circumstances.

And he offers his own countrymen his grateful thanks for their confidence in his sincerest efforts to lead them safely out of their actual streight.

The ultimate satisfactory solution of the remaining difficulties need give no man an anxious thought.

The permanent stability of the British trade with this empire with honor and advantage to all parties, rests upon a firm foundation; upon the wisdom, justice, and power of Her Majesty's Government.

CHARLES ELLIOT,
Chief Superintendent of the Trade of British Subjects in China.
Canton Register Office, 3rd April 1839.

SHIPPING INTELLIGENCE.

ARRIVED.—Brit. *Rob Roy*, Mackinnon, *Ann*, Guy, *Nymph* Gowan, *Poppy*,———, *Syed Khan*. Ovenstone, *Belhaven*, ———; from Singapore and Calcutta, *Hannah*, Gardine from Bombay. *Carnatic*, Laird, from Bombay 16th November. Amer. *Talbot*, Story, from Nawyork 18th October, Batavia

SAILED OR DESPATCHED,—Brit. *Viscount Melbourne*, Drayner, for London, Amer, *Omega*, Hillert, for New York. Under despatch this day if permitted to leave Brit. *Premier*, Were, for London; *Isabella Robertson*, for Leith; Amer. *Girard*, Drinker, for New York. From outside, *Exchange*, Procter for Manila.

Under despatch Amer, *Roman*, Hallet, for Manila and New York, *Niantic*, Griswold, for New York, Brit. *Ingleborough*, Buckle, for British; *Tigris*, Titherington, for Liverpool.

PASSENGERS.---per Premier, Messrs R. Inglis,---Durant, Jos Cragg. per Viscount Melbourne, Mr. J. M. Smith.

Vessels laid on for London; *Eliza*, *Parrock Hall*, *Orwell*, *Ingleborough*; for LEITH, *Isabella*; for Liverpool, *Tigris*: for BRISTOL, *Ingleborough*.

VESSELS EXPECTED —CALCUTTA, *Syren*, BOMBAY, *Hellas*, *Emily Jane*, *Slains Castle*. *Mangalore*, *Tory*.

LATEST COMMERCIAL REMARKS.

The shipping off and landing of goods has been stopped within this day or two, and as it appears doubtful how long this may continue, there has been some speculation in one or two articles.

IMPORTS.

COTTON MANUFACTURES.—The demand for LONGCLOTHS both *grey* and *white* continues good, with perhaps some little advance in prices. In COTTON YARN we have heard of no sales but of small parcels, and the market for this article continues inactive.

WOOLLENS.—SPANISH STRIPES have been purchased readily at some little advance, and and a sale of 1000 pieces fair quality was made two days since at 1,40 LONGELLS have improved fuliy ¼ a dollar, 8¾ being now offered for well assorted colors.

METAL,—We hear no transactions.

STRAITS PRODUCE.—There have been no importations during the week; the only alteration reported is we believe in Rattans.

RICE,—the market having being fuilly supplied from the country, prices have fallen a little.

COTTON,—the *Bombay* staple is in good demand at two or three mace advance, but we have heard only of small sales. *Bengal* remains as before; *Madras* a little firmer.

OPIUM.—A reference to the proceedings that have occurred during the week, given in another part of the paper will shew the state of the trade, and it is unnecessary to state more than that nothing whatever is doing.

EXPORTS.

NANKIN SILK.—No further sales, and the dealers appear disposed to sell at considerable reduction, but there is little of first quality remaining.

TEA,—business to some extent was done in the early part of the week, but transactions are of course now entirely suspended.

Canton, 23 *March*, 1839.

STATEMENT.

Of Exports of TEAS to Great Britain and the United States of America, since the Ist July 1838, and to this date.

	To G. Britain, Piculs	To U. States. Piculs
Fokien Babea	504	
Canton Bohea	355	
Congo	1549861	
Caper	1986	
Souchong	5603	4341
Pouchong		1413
Campoi	382	
Ankoi	693	
Hongmuey	1942	
Pekoe	3390	45
Orange Pekoe	5863	127
Black	180689	5927
Hyson	5899	2600
Young Hyson	3573	23123
Hyson Skin	3472	2620
Twankay	9625	
Gunpowder	3556	4416
Imperial	1832	3337
Total	208646	42028

Total of BLACK Tea to Gt. Britain lbs. 24031866
Total of GREEN Tea to Gt. Britain lbs. 3727600
lbs. 27819466

Total of BLACK Tea to United States lbs. 790266
Total of GREEN Tea to United States lbs. 4812800
lbs. 5603065

RAW SILK shipped to Great Britain Piculs 2117

General Chamber of Commerce.
Canton Press, March 23.

LATEST RATE OF EXCHANGE AND PRICE OF BULLION.

	s	d
ON LONDON or Liverpool, 6 months sight private Bills	5.	
Government Bills 10 @ 30 days	4.	10.
United States Bank Bills 6 months sight	5.	

Bills under advances made on goods by the E. I. Company's Agents, None
E. I. Company's Agents Bills on Calcutta 30 ds. sight C. Rs. 225 @ 222
E. I. Directors Bills 60 ds. sight and private 30 ds. C. Rs. 222.
Private Bills, on Bombay, „ Rs.....

Gold, 98 *a* 100 touch, in leaves $ 2375 per Tael weight.
Sycee at Lintin &c. large Ingots 97 *a* 99 touch 7 per Cent prem. } very
.....small 96 *a* 98 „ 6½ per Cent „ } scarce.
Spanish Dollars Pillar Ferdinand, ... 1 per Cent „
„ „ Old Carolus IV.. 3 @ 4 per Cent „ Nominal.
South American Republics..... par.

Freight to London, Liverpool, &c. per Ton. 50 cub: feet £ 4.10 Nom.
to foreign Europe, American and British Ships, none.....
to United States, American Ships Per Ton. 40 cub. feet.... 25 $
Canton Press, March 30.

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